

them to seek for finer woollen goods. And in reply to the second, we will only remark that it is not the Merino sheep which we have recommended generally, but South-downs or cross breeds, which the table we have quoted shows to yield as much flesh and as much wool as Leicesters.

What Canadian farmers require to do is to raise such wool as our manufacturers can use. This is not done by one in ten. The consequences are that English, Scotch and cross-bred Australian wools are being imported by the million pounds for our mills, and yet there is a million and a half pounds of Canada fleece held in Ontario, some of it two years old, eating itself up in storage and interest, and unsaleable at 20 cents per pound, while imported wool of short fibre sells rapidly at 35 cents. One importer, we are told, has half a million pounds of wool on the way across the Atlantic for our factories.

THE TORONTO EXHIBITION.

The fourth display held in the present handsome and roomy grounds and buildings of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition, was formally opened on Wednesday of last week by the Hon. Oliver Mowat, Premier of Ontario, in the absence of the Lieut. Governor of the province. The attendance on the first three days was not noticeably large, but on Saturday, which was the children's day, a great number of adults was present in addition to the six or seven thousand school children. Monday interested a great throng on the grounds the occasion being the bombardment, from the Exhibition Grounds, of a large brigantine, and her subsequent blowing up by means of electricity. The electric light has also attracted thousands and the various other features, exterior to the Show itself, have had their share in gathering together the concourse of people from various parts of the Dominion which has characterized this week.

In some respects the display made has not been equal to that of previous years in the same place. We refer especially to the textile and other manufactures, whose makers, it appears, were unable to send such exhibits as they had done in former years, because of continued pressure of orders upon their time and capacity. It was too much to expect, indeed, that our cotton and woollen mills, foundries and agricultural implement works should continue year after year to make such lavish exhibits of their products as was done two years ago. Nor should it be forgotten that the Montreal, Kingston, London, St. Thomas and other fairs divide the attention and share the efforts of exhibitors.

Field and forest, mine and quarry, are illustrated by such displays to a larger gathering, perhaps, than they could procure otherwise, and the country is benefitted as well as the individual exhibitor.

If the Toronto Exhibition had required any apology for its existence, that apology would have been found in its annual and increasing success. But, in truth, it requires no apology. From the first, the Toronto Exhibition has been subjected to exceptional and unfair criticism. It has been made a ground of complaint that it has outdone the

Provincial Exhibition. The envious nature of this criticism does in fact disarm it of its sting. The general rule is that honorable success brings just applause, and it is a novel spectacle to see great and merited success made the subject of calumnious reproach.

It was natural that comparisons should be made between the Toronto and the Provincial Exhibitions. Both were incitements to excellence in various departments of industry, and that which succeeded best deserved best of the public. It is the people, who by their choice and suffrage achieve success, at the Toronto Exhibition, and all envious censure directed against that success falls upon the masses by whom it was brought about.

Of all places in Ontario, Toronto has been the most loyal to the Provincial Exhibition; of all places where the Provincial Exhibition was ever held, Toronto was the last to set up anything that could be construed into an opposition. It was only when local fairs had become universal that Toronto resolved to have a fair of its own. It is not surprising that the prevalence of local fairs should mark the decadence of the Provincial. The Provincial Exhibition has done good work in its day, but its usefulness has nearly gone. Much as it has done, there have been conspicuous defects in its management. It has left behind it no enduring record of the processes by which the results it celebrated were achieved. Its judgments, little better than guess work, must often have been unjust. Year after year prizes were given to mechanics without competitive trial, and no pains were taken to ascertain and place upon record the mode in which the best specimens of agricultural produce were obtained. Every thing was decided by haphazard, and according to the rule of thumb. The Provincial Exhibition had therefore no redeeming principle of action, and its decay resulted from the absence of any true test of merit.

The only remaining value of the Provincial Exhibition is to serve as a warning to similar organizations. It is true that the Toronto fair has no Provincial duties to perform. A fair for the sale of goods is different from an exhibition which merely undertakes to decide upon the relative merits of the things exhibited; but when prizes are awarded a test of merit is implied. These tests ought, in many instances to be made more thorough, than they have hitherto been. It is preposterous to say that one machine is better than another without subjecting it to a working trial. When prizes are given for agricultural produce it is desirable to know the conditions under which that produce was raised, otherwise whatever might be obtained from example, and by way of instruction is lost. Obviously, there is room for improvement in this particular, and we hope that, in future, better methods will be followed, and an enduring record be kept of the way in which desirable results have been obtained.

The praise bestowed by the Hon. the Premier on the labors of the Association was well merited. That gentleman said, referring to the important place filled and the important work done by

this Show: "It would doubtless have largely failed to accomplish this had it not been for the great energy, ability, and self-sacrificing industry which have characterized the operations of the Association, and in a marked manner your own part of it, Mr. President. By that display of energy and self-sacrifice the city and the Province largely benefit." Following our custom, we append some notes of the departments of the Exhibition which illustrate manufactures.

Traction engines were a lively feature of the show. Some of these, driving a sawmill and a shingle mill, are shown by the Waterous Engine Works Co., which is rarely behind-hand in its display on an occasion of this kind. This Company also has on exhibition grain elevators and grist-mill elevators, and an assortment of Ewart chain in use in these. An improved "bull wheel," for a large saw-mill, is another item in their exhibit. Abell, of Woodbridge, and the Haggart Co., of Brampton, also show traction engines.

In the stove building, more space is occupied by Messrs. Burrows, Stewart & Milne, of Hamilton, and by the Oshawa Stove Co., than by any, or indeed all other exhibitors. The display made by the last-named company is varied and striking, not so much from variety of pattern, perhaps, though that is great, as from the lavish nickel-plating and other ornament which distinguish their stoves.

Towards the western end of the main building Messrs. Peter R. Lamb & Co., of this city, have an interesting display of their manufactures of superphosphate of lime, bone dust, and other land fertilizers. Their well-known make of blacking is also on view, as well as an extensive array of their Crown flint glass paper, a make of sandpaper which we understand is taking well with the trade.

In the first gallery, north-west corner, may be found the Cobban Manufacturing Company's specimens. These are mirror frames, picture frames, mouldings, and ornamental goods, whose designs show marked taste, while their execution is very creditable. The display is a credit to the factory.

Messrs. Barber & Ellis, wholesale stationers, have offered prizes amounting to \$700 for the best original designs for Christmas cards. Three artists' prizes and three citizens' prizes, first \$200 each, second \$100 each, third \$50 each, to be ready by 15th December next. This firm now occupies additional premises, taken to accommodate growing business. Their output of envelopes is now stated at over sixty millions per annum.

The Cornwall Manufacturing Company is again to the front, with its admirable blankets, checks and other goods, and carries off a silver medal for medium white blankets; and for white colored Mackinaw blankets; bronze medal for grey and fancy check wool blankets; and the same for Union. Elliot, Sherriff & Co., of Almonte, secure a silver medal for the best six carriage or travelling rugs, and a like honor for their assortments of cassimeres, doeskins, and tweeds respectively. Gillies, Son & Co., of Carleton Place, carry off the gold medal for specimens of fine wool tweeds, "Scotch finish," a new departure. A. G. Van Edmond of Seaforth, makes a good display of plain and fancy druggets, taking a silver medal each for Union and wool, the same for Union flannel, and one for tweed with cotton warp, wool filling.

The Rosamond Woollen Company make, it is needless to say, beautiful goods; they have every appliance for the purpose, and are year by year gathering experience which makes their annual product more valuable. The assortment of worsted cloths which this company displayed was awarded a silver medal.

In the department of carpets, matting, and mats, a silver medal was carried off by the Ontario Worsted Company of Elora, for their two-ply wool carpets, which were serviceable though the samples shown were not of the most tasteful colors.

Great praise is due to the enterprising firm of Messrs. Wm. Parks & Son, the cotton manufacturers, for their admirable and extensive display. Not only do they show full ranges of samples in beam warps, yarns and other necessities of textile manufacture, but they have a great array of woven shirtings from their own mills at St. John, the colors and finish of which merit approval. The colors of their warps are especially noteworthy for their purity and bright-